

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2926

To require certain entities to disclose to the Secretary of Homeland Security ransom payments, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 4, 2021

Ms. WARREN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To require certain entities to disclose to the Secretary of Homeland Security ransom payments, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DISCLOSURE OF RANSOM PAYMENTS.**

4       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5           (1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-  
6           tity”—

7                   (A) means a public or private entity that—  
8                          (i) is engaged in interstate commerce  
9                          or an activity affecting interstate com-  
10                         merce; or

1 (ii) receives Federal funds;

2 (B) includes a local government; and

3 (C) does not include an individual.

(2) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term “information system” has the meaning given such term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

14 (b) DISCLOSURE REQUIRED.—Not later than 7 days  
15 after the date on which a covered entity pays a ransom,  
16 the entity shall disclose to the Secretary, in accordance  
17 with subsection (b), such payment.

18 (c) CONTENTS.—A disclosure made under subsection  
19 (b) shall include, with respect to the ransom at issue, the  
20 following:

21                   (1) The date on which such ransom was de-  
22 manded.

23 (2) The date on which such ransom was paid.

24 (3) The amount of such ransom demanded.

25 (4) The amount of such ransom paid.

(5) An identification of the currency, including if cryptocurrency, used for payment of such ransom.

7       (d) NONCOMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall establish  
8 by regulation appropriate penalties for a covered entity  
9 that fails to make a disclosure required under subsection  
10 (b).

11 (e) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

1       (f) STUDY AND REPORT ON RANSOM COMMONAL-  
2 ITIES.—

3                 (1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a  
4 study to determine if—

5                         (A) there are commonalities with respect to  
6 the information disclosed under subsection (b);  
7 and

8                         (B) the extent to which cryptocurrency has  
9 facilitated the kinds of attacks that resulted in  
10 the payment of ransoms by covered entities.

11                 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 15 months after  
12 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
13 shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

14                         (A) the findings of the study conducted  
15 under paragraph (1); and

16                         (B) such recommendations as the Sec-  
17 retary considers appropriate for protecting the  
18 information systems of covered entities.

19       (g) INDIVIDUAL REPORTING.—

20                 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 21,  
21 2021, the Secretary shall establish a website through  
22 which individuals may voluntarily report the pay-  
23 ment of a ransom by the individual.

24                 (2) INCORPORATION OF DATA.—To the greatest  
25 extent practicable, the Secretary shall incorporate

1 data from reporting by individuals under paragraph

2 (1) in—

3 (A) the information published under sub-  
4 section (e); and

5 (B) the study conducted under subsection  
6 (f).

7 (h) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall apply to ran-  
8 soms paid on or after the date that is 90 days after the  
9 date of the enactment of this Act.

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